DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 322-5475



March 13, 1980

ALL-COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. 1-25-80

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: FOOD STAMP PROGRAM - COMPENSATION TO CENSUS TAKERS AS EARNED INCOME

This letter is to inform you of a recent Food and Nutrition Service policy directive regarding the treatment of income certain public assistance households may receive from the Bureau of Census.

As you know, an agreement exists between the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare and the Bureau of Census to the effect that members of public assistance households who are employed as census takers will not have their wages included in determining the assistance grant. The agreement was reached in recognition of the fact that such employment will be for a short period (3 to 5 weeks) and will not have a long term effect on the household's financial circumstances. Additionally, the intent of the agreement was to encourage low income households to work as census takers.

The current law does not allow for an exemption of this income in the Food Stamp Program. Therefore, for the purpose of determining a household's eligibility and food stamp benefits normal income guidelines remain in effect. The EW shall take into account income received by households containing a member employed as a census taker. Such income shall be included in the total gross monthly <u>earned</u> income for the household and is subject to the 20 percent earned income exclusion.

If you should have any questions regarding this policy directive, please contact your Food Stamp Operations Analyst at (916) 322-5475.

Sincerely,

K**XI**E S. McKINSE Deputy Director

cc: CWDA FNS/WRO